1. “Write about the American Dream?  What is it and what does it mean to you?  What are your dreams for the future?”

Show the students a video clip from a show “Rich Girls” featuring the teenage daughters of nouveau riche families such as the Hilfiger's and the Hiltons, leading to another journal writing prompt, “If money was not an issue…What effect would wealth have upon the dreams that you wrote about earlier?” 

2. After the students began reading, he gave them another prompt, “How do you feel about the characters that you have met in the Great Gatsby so far?  Do any of the characters remind you of anybody that you know? How have the female characters been portrayed so far? ”

3. “Literature often reflects the time period in which it is created.  What have you learnt or did you already know about the period in which The Great Gatsby was written?” 

4. “What are your impressions of Gatsby?  Do you believe the account of his past?  Why/Why not?  Given Daisy's story, what do you think will happen next in the novel?” 

5.  To help students think about the role of symbols: “Write about your school mascot.  Why is your mascot a good symbol for the school?  What are some other symbols of schools or businesses that you can think of? How do these work?” 

6. “Have you ever wanted to repeat the past?  How realistic do you think Gatsby's dream is?” 

7. “What is great about the Great Gatsby?  What are your opinions of Gatsby now that you have finished the novel?  How great was he and why?”

8. “The Great Gatsby is a novel about … Avoiding a simple plot summary, discuss what you think the novel we have just read is really about.  What is Fitzgerald trying to do in his book?” 

9. “Write about the group work that you have done during the Gatsby unit.  How well do you think your group worked together?  What could your group have done better?  What could you have done differently?  All in all what are your feelings about working with a base group?”